Quelle

THE NATIONAL ERA IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY, ON SEVENTH STREET, OPPOSITE ODD PELLOWS' HALL. TERMS.

Two dollars per annum, payable in advance Advertisements not exceeding ten lines inserted three times for one dollar; every subsequent insertion, twenty-All communications to the Ena, whether on business of the paper or for rublication, should be addressed to G. BAILEY, Washington, D. C.

BUELL & BLANCHARD, PRINTERS,

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 17, 1851.

For the National Era.

TO THE SPIRIT OF SONG.

BY MISS ALICE CARRY.

Come, sweet spirit, come, I pray, Thou hast been too long away; Come, and in the dreamland light, Keep with me a tryst to-night. When the reapers once at morn Bound the golden stocks of sorn, Shadowy hands, that none could see trleaned along the field with me.

Come, and with thy winglet white Hide me from a wicked sprite, That has vexed me with a sign Which I tremble to divine. At a black loom, sisters three

Saw I weaving; can it be, Thought I, as I saw them crowd Silently the loom they left, Taking mingled warp and weft, And, as wild my bosom beat, Measured me from head to feet

Liest thou in the drowning brine Sweetest, gentlest love of mine, Tangled softly from my prayer,

Or, when mortal hope withdrew, must thou, Vaithiess, leave me too Howing on thy lovely reed, Careless how my heart should bleed By this sudden chill I know That it is, it must be so-Sprite of darkness, sisters three,

Lo, I wait your ministry. For the National Era.

LIFE ON PRAIRIE DE LA FLEUR. - No. 8. BY MARY IRVING.

"HELP." A Chapter for the sympathizing only.

A homely heading, to be sure; but as sure an that it will strike home to the hearts of some of my readers; and as for the others, why, they have taken the hint already, and turned to a more dignified column.

This "sum of all in-door tribulation in one word," as I once heard an impatient housewife style it, is not limited to our prairie borders, surely. Older and abler pens than mine have often portrayed, most graphically and amusingly, the iomestic troubles and trials of various corners of the civilized world. But so important a feature ought not to be left unsketched, in a por-

trait of Life on Prairie de la Fleur. ants are a commodity as little known here as lares in Yankee land. All are equal in name and rank, as well as in constitutional rights; and ders (for "a consideration") his or her help to your necessity, must be a sharer in all the rights and privileges you could accord to the most ex-

" Place mem, and wouldn't ye be wanting to hire a lad?" inquired a wild-eyed Irish fellow one evening, at the door of the domicil I called my home for a season.

Now, what with house-building, haying, and harvesting, any number of hands could be made serviceable at that juncture; and my hostess invited Paddy into kitchen quarters. He tossed curious glances about him, and entertained the girls with his rich brogue, till the master of the house returned.

"Shure it's from County Cork, sur, wid me feyther and the six childer, six months agone this blessed Sunday that's now past."

depression of the immortal to the service of the mortal. Moreover, we like not to yield to necessity, what we would willingly give to choice, for

But how came you to leave your family?" " Och!" he shrugged his shoulders, and stooped to take a fresh spoonfull of mush and milk; " me mither-rist her sowl out of purgatory! wint off in the fever, and me stip-mither was the divil's own chilt to me; so I e'en made a clean run away of it!"

No very favorable recommendation, to be sure but we agreed to keep Pat a few days on trial.

The next day he was sent into the clearing lot with the hands, and demeaned himself quite industriously during the morning hours. But with the shadows of sunset, Paddy presented his phiz again at car entrance-way, axe over shoulder, and red flannel sleeves rolled above his cibows. " Place yer honor," he plead, twitching his ha

where there had been a brim, and making an awkward scrape with his bare foot, "it's sthirrin' up counthry I wod be, and be yer lave !" What, Pat, don't you find your work easy enough ?"

Asy for the like of sich an a one as takes it !" answered Pat, with a deprecating shrug of the shoulders. Our ragged recruit was discharged, with a hearty laugh at his expense.

Paddy's more profitable successor bore the name of Dominic, though no saint was he. He was also from "swate Ireland," that keeps green with the tears of its oppressed and the bones of its dying children. He was a thrifty Romanist, who squandered half his wages regularly in a spree every Sunday night, after having obtained absolution from the priest in the nearest village, at the confessional; and spurned every morsel of meat on a Friday, to keep the balance of his

He remained very quietly for several m when some trifling disagreement with his Welsh or Dutch co-laborers awoke in his head the roving propensity of his race, and he too took leave

Quite a number of actors from various climes passed over the stage of domestic affairs -- some imes half a dozen or more at a time, sometime one " alone in his glory." One surly Scotchman, who absconded because " he wasn't trated like entlemen"—a Welshman, whose pate was as thick is the stubby locks that covered it-a bevy o good-natured Hollanders, who were ready for every emergency, and right in almost none—and others of lesser note, passed on and off in their

Our dwelling was at quite a little distance from the spring, whose pure bright water gushed up fresh at our daily wants; and in want of an aqueduct to bring it to us, we sometimes made use of the hands in their leisure moments. One morning, our ever-helpful Hans Korner, (no relalive of the illustrious German poet, be it hoped,) having filled the reservoir for use during the day, stood leaning idly upon a fowling piece, watching the hurried tide of breakfast operations.

"Here, my good fellow," cried one of the workg bees, "take this pan of potatoes to wash; take the water from there," pointing to the reservoir. Going back in a moment, she found Hans, in his honest stupidity, leaning over the edge of

the huge tub, as though he were about to make a cluntary immersion of himself. What is the matter now?' she exclain

"Nix goot!" replied Hans, very innocently, sotto roce, holding up his dripping arm, from which he had rolled the tow sleeve to his very shoulder, and pointing into the troubled water below him. Darting forward, she burst into a fit of laughter, at seeing the whole colony of potatoes complecently swimming at the bottom while Hans was vainly endeavoring to fish them out again, at arm's length-a laughter only damp ed by the provoking assurance of being obliged to tire her own arms in the service of replenish

ing the wasted fluid! All honor to the hardworking peasantry of Faderland! If sometimes dull of comprehension, they are always generous of heart; and never was there a more faithful ready, and capable hand lent to our burden of business, than that of one kind Dutchman who followed

Enough of the troubles in the line of the lordlier sex; our feminine tribulations could boast an equal glory. Conceive, ye uninitiated in kitchen mysteries, if you can, of the delights of kitchen independence! the glory of holding undisputed sway over saucepan and shovel, dinnerpot and dish-kettle, " mouarch of all you survey." Such a glorious interregaum had worn off its charm of novelty to us, when we sought and found a raw Welsh damsel, to take the "rod of iron" in hand. To be sure, she could scarcely stammer a sentence in Euglish; "but then," urged the gentleman, with as much penetration as people usually display in matters beyond their own experience, "you can easily make her un-

derstand by signs what you wish her to do." Ruth stationed herself in the kitchen, and folded her hands in a quiet, supreme consciousness of her queenly dignity. How to penetrate her shield of ignorance was a matter not easily solved. The confusion of tongues in the tower of Babel has made a deal of confusion in families. A Welsh girl, in a family of my acquaint-ance, much more intelligent than the one I have heen describing, on heigg asked to bring a slice of cold pork to the table, rushed down to the cellar and dragged up the com nod to the astonished

breakfast circle! Confusion was Ruth's prime minister; indeed, plates lost their places, knives and forks mated as the manufacturer never meant them; starched clothes stood upon their own responsibility, and saucepans lost all sense of propriety. Her par-boiled potatoes and superannuated steaks soon sent even our fine prairie appetites begging; and the "staff of life," intrusted only once to her clumsy hands to shape, "pierced us through with many sorrows." "Ann." accompanied by a stare of utter vacuity, was her wonted response to any

"This will never do!" exclaimed the matron, at last, "we are better alone." Ruth's wages were poured into her lap; she took them with her customary nonchalance, and it was some hours before the fact of her dismissal seemed really to penetrate into the thinking chamber of

Another interval of independence followed, diversified only by the weekly appearance of a red-armed heroine of the wash-board, on the day red-armed hero ted to "Joh's orgies," as some wag has it. The third week of her coming, she brought a round, rosy-cheeked, precocious baby in her arms, crowned with a natural cap of its own stiff yel-

Now our house, too, could boast its baby—and such a baby! The lily that blooms in the stirless forest-depths, the mimosa that hides its heart from the very breath of the zephyr, is not more pure, more frail, or more fair, than was that little flower of humanity! Delighted with the newcomer, she crept timidly to its feet, and stretched
up her wee white hands, in token of welcome.
Soon, however, a piercing shriek startled the
whole househould; and, rushing to the spot, we
would our net live shakes were the flowers, we
ing like a garden marigold, bent over her, trying
to clutch another lock of her pale brown hair. The mother of the infantile tyrant, summoned to the door, turned her shoulder with an air of utter indifference, that said, "Babies must fight out their own battles!" and made a vigorous dive

into her foaming suds.

This was insufferable. Our house was not to be thus outraged; and the spoiled baby being an indispensable appendage of its spoiling mamma, both were banished from our precincts

lependent!" was the soliloquy of the few follow-ng weeks. But mind, intelligent, cultivated mind, when bound by circumstances in a despotic bondage to the body's physical wants, soon strug-gles in its galling chains, and rebels against the

season. Sickness came on with the summer heat, and we were forced to look again for "help." Our first trip in search of it was to a cot on the edge of the prairie, that seemed tumbling to pieces

there was not for disposal.
"My dowters ha'n't no need to leave their home, thanks for it!" observed the mother, look-ing complacently around upon the dilapidated walls and ruinous furniture. "Contentment is riches," philosophers tell us; surely then a n ionaire might have envied the good woman! The next application was more successful Lydia lowed she'd go with us," was the result a most estentatious consultation of whisperer

We had set our hearts on obtaining a "Yan kee" girl, and bore her homeward as triumph as a fisher-boy might an especially fine But our rose of felicity was by no means thorn

less. Lydia certainly was "a genius" in kitchen tactics, compared with the tyros that had tried tactics, compared with the tyros that had tried our patience; but, like too many other geniuses, she was capricious, and far from docile. Her own comfort and convenience she had no idea of sacrificing to any theoretical notion of responsibility for the happiness of the family she had entered.

The physician who should refuse to arise from a snug bed at night, and risk his health for the snug bed at night, and risk his health for the a snug bed at night, and risk his health for the sake of a suffering stranger, would be despised in society. The clergyman who should shut himself within his warm study, and turn a deaf ear to the call of the sick or the dying, would be hooted

the call of the sick or the dying, would be hooted from his charge by public sentiment. All the professions which ennoble and enlarge the soul of man teach him his duty to humanity at large, and his consequent obligation to self-sacrifice. But where is the domestic who realizes this world-wide duty? "Here," and "here," voices reply; for there are a few such. If there were more, we should be one degree nearer the Millennium! Lydia's biscuits and beef-steaks were unexcep tionable, when her star of good humor was in the ascendant. But if inclination moved her to a trip into a neighbor's kitchen, or a stroll into the woods "berrying," duty never restrained its impulse

lowever unseasonable.

I'm goin' to a parin' bee, ma'am!" she astounder us by uttering one eve, just at sunset, as she came from her nook, shrouded in cape, bonnet, and shawl, with a starched white apron tied over her

red calico gown.
"Why, Lydia! I really don't see how I ca spare your help to-night?" exclaimed her mistress, despondingly. "There is the supper for the workmen yet—and then the butter, and"—
"Well, you'll have to get along as well as you can without me! I've got an invite, and I'm oblegged

of the house?" once exclaimed a gentleman rather abruptly, on entering a room where a do

capable of combining cook, chambermaid, and nurse. In each of these several capacities will prevent his performing his deticates which she proved herself signally nach. nurse. In each of these several capacities she proved herself signally useful, and seemed scarcely less than an aunt to the affectionate children, who crowded around her to claim her turnovers and cookies. But a time of separation came.

"It was not that she loved us less,

But she loved another more That other intruded under the straw hat of stalwart six-footer, an enterprising, "clever," young Englishman, who had taken a fancy to our Hannah, fresh from the wash-tub, with dripping arms and streaming locks. So, every Sunday evening of a long summer and autumn, that same straw hat was bound to pass the low portal of our kitchen, after a walk of several miles. The cours of the damsel's "true love" ran without a ripple if we might judge by the unconcern with which she always turned to the affairs of the busy Monday morning. But her chosen swain, very reasonably, at length grew weary of such pro tracted pilgrimages.

One frosty morning, of early spring, our circle was thrown into unusual commotion; for a wedding is a wedding, be it what and where it may—between beggars or born nobles—in a shanty or in a palace. The bride looked very pretty in her unassuming blue dress, home-fashioned for the occasion. As for the bridgeroom, he brushed and pomatumed his hair—twitched his collar anxiously—but unfortunately, from his height of blissful anticipation, falled to cast a glance downward to his boots, which were garnished with trophies won from the March mud of the prairie

The clock had struck gight a few neighbors had "happened in" from good will or curiosity, as usual; and the bridegroom elect came to lead out his bride before the face of "the minister."

"But what must I do?" he inquired, very anx-

iously, in a whisper. "I don't know at all about this 'getting married'—do you?" "Not I," returned the puzzled bride. "I never was at a wedding in my life; but I reckoned you

"Oh, go on!" exclaimed one of the family

laughing; "you cannot very well make a mistake!
No—stop, though! you have taken your lady on
the wrong arm, my good friend!"
Suppressing comical smiles, we followed to witness the tying of the knot. At the close of the simple prayer that preceded it, the inexperienced bridegroom very coolly seated himself for the cerbridegroom very coolly seated himself for the cer-emony. The bride, who had an instinct to the contrary, remained in her standing position for a moment. Each felt the ludicrousness of the spec-tacle presented, and each involuntarily tried to jump into harmony with the other. The young man, coloring, sprang to his feet, and his bride, more confusedly, popped down into her chair! Thus they vibrated in opposition for a few seconds, striving most errostly after the unity necessary to a more permanent union. At last, both found themselves simultaneously on their feet, they scarcely knew how; and hand being clasped in hand—not exactly ball-room fashion, but far more heartily, for all that—the "magic words" were spoken and our Hanneh was a words" were spoken, and our Hannah was a "real married woman," as the least of the chil-

A springless country wagon was at the door, and Hannah soon rattled away from us over the frozen prairie, putting up her handkerchief as she turned her eyes ever and anon back to the Ah, wen! signed our, as we result to see the lottedeserted kitchen, ry of new girls!"

But I have already given you the list of our blanks and prizes, and I am spinning my chapter to too great a length even for "the sympathising;" so I will break its thread abruptly!

For the National Era PLAIN TALK.

Politicians at Washington seem to think that the anti-slavery spirit has been effectually prosthe anti-slavery spirit has been effectually prostrated by the passage of the measures of the last session. Henry Clay has publicly proclaimed it in the Senate. He never yet palmed off one of his so-called compromises, without boasting that it was a final settlement of the question—as witness, his Missouri Compromise, and his various tariff compromises. But the truth is, his "settlements" would never stay settled long. In 1839, he made a famous speech, which his friends proclaimed was a death blow to Abolitionism; but it proved merely a death blow to the political aspiproved merely a death blow to the political aspi rations of its author. The country has never been so deeply sgitated on the question of slavery as since that time. So it will be with his present "peace measures," for so long as the Fugitive Bill remains on the statute book will this nation

be convulsed by it.
We would ask the South, what have you gained and what do you expect to gain, by continuing this law in force? I have no doubt that as many fugitives were recovered under the old law a under this, and without attracting half the atten under this, and without attracting half the attention. The great majority, we presume ninetenths, of the fugitives immediately fled to Canada, where they are beyond their reach forever. That was the first result of this peace measure. Again, there are fully as many, if not more, excaping from slavery; and they now receive assistance from multitudes who, but for the passage of this law, would have continued indifferent spectators of the operations of the "underground railroad" system. They hate this "peace measure" so heartily that it affords them a special pleasure to assist in evading it. Such is human nature, and there is no use in shutting our eyes to the truth.

in this country, public opinion is emphaticall In this country, public opinion is emphatically the higher law, in one sense at least, as it is useless to attempt to enforce a law where public sentiment is decidedly opposed to it. Especially is this the case where the people must assist, in order effectually to carry out the law. No observing mind can doubt that public opinion throughout nine-tenths of our free territory is most decidedly opposed to this law; and where this feeling is strongest, there the greatest number of fugitives will always be found. If the South listen to the descritful representations of Northern doughfaces deceiful representations of Northern doughfaces on this point, they will be led to their own ruin. There are classes of men that tell the South that the law can be and shall be enforced at the North the law can be and shall be enforced at the North. No doubt in some locations it can, but they are few and far between. A large portion of the clergy, and a numerous host of politicians, are laboring hard to convince the North that it is a high and holy religious and political duty to assist in returning fugitive slaves; but let not the South be deceived by all this. Look at the Union Safety Committee and their clerical abettors of New York city! What is it that actuates them to such excessive zeel on this subject? Why, it is simply a calculation of dollars and cents with them. If it was not for the fear of losing Southern trade and Southern votes, they would losing Southern trade and Southern votes, they would never open their mouths to sustain the law. With all the zeal of these patricts, I will venture the assertion that there is not one of them who, i called upon by a slave-hunter, would lift a finger in the way of active personal assistance to secure a fugitive. Why, just picture to yourself the Hon. Lewis Cass perambulating the streets of Detroit, with all the awful dignity of a would-be rather abruptly, on entering a room where a domestic and her mistress were employed—the former in standing at her ease by the window, watching the movements of the latter, who was industriously brushing the hearth-rug! Many a time propounded the same query under our roof, for there was no hand that shrank from the contamination of labor, when that labor went to exalt the best of all blessings, Family Happiness!

It was not surprising that Lydia became restless within a few weeks, and bundled up her effects for another trial of life in town.

"It's so awful lonesome here!" she said, with a tragical sigh, at parting; "there a'n't no society to keep up your sperits!"

We were more disposed to laugh at her than to complain of her, for she was what a peculiar form of society, found chiefly in our frontier.

A troop followed, of whom it sufficest to chronicle, "They came and went"—of various races, broguee, and blunders. At last good fretune came to us, incarnated in a rebust, red. Presidential nominee. Suddenly comes in sight a brave—no, a "slave-hunter of Kentucky," in a brave—no, a "slave-hunter of Kentucky," In hot pursuit of one of the fair sex, who is fleeing as for life. The panting fugitive hurries past the brave General, startling him from a careful calculation on the vote of New York. His Kentucky friend calls upon him, as a "good citizen, to aid and assist in the prompt and efficient execution of the law"—in other words, to join in the chase. What a glorious sight it would be to see the burly form of the hero of — under full sall after the fair fugitive! Such a spectacle would do much to heal those "five bleeding wounds." But does any one imagine for one moment that he, or any other of these devoted advocates of the law, will ever be found joining in such a chase?

No, not they. They will talk and talk, and talk, and rote laws laying commands upon the people and rote laws laying commands upon the people.

cheeked Dutch girl, accomplished and accomplishing in her vocation, and ready to lend her smiling face as a permanent star to our kitchen horizon.

Sisters of spacicus, luxurious Eastern or Southern homes—you whose lily-white fingers come in contact with nothing harsher than the keys of the piano, or, at most, of the pantry—you to whom Wealth lends a dozen hands and feet to whom we have to whom we have to whom who whom we have to whom we to whom Wealth leads a dozen hands and feet every hour; you.—. But I forget too often; you cannot sympathize with our Western experiences, and so you are not glancing over my rambling narrative. An iron grasp the wild West will not generally engage in it with that zeal newould have for you!

When the family to which I have alluded left its comfortable Eastern home, it transplanted one bors more than the ill-will of a distant slavehold cessary to insure success. How easy for an offi-cer, who fears the odium of his friends and neigh-

the inestimable blessings of slavery.

The cases of those who are successful in a "Slave Hunt" in the free States are as one in a hundred; and when they do succeed, the money actually expended is generally greater than the value of the slaves recovered. Thousands upon thousand of dollars have been lost forever by the South in unsuccessful expenditures of this kind, and it will continue to be so until they learn the of Northern Whigs and Democrats ready and willing to asist them, and that all they will have to contend against will be a few crazy Abolition ists; but they soon discover their mistake, and return home with empty pockets, cursing those who have deceived them. In the present state of the public mind, every

attempt to enforce this law is immediately heralded through the papers from one end of the country to the other, and all the facts tending to excite sympathy for the fugitive are carefully collected and sent upon the wings of the wind. Thus it is that the excitement is kept up, and the bitterest opposition to the law instered and extended. Thousands are led by this means to investigate the whole subject of slavery, and their relation to it, and, as a result, anti-slavery sentiment is spreading with great rapidity. It has aroused the Abolitionists; they are renewing their organizations all over the country. For years they have not been as active as since the passage of this law. But this is not all—so edious passage of this law. But this is not all—so edicuis are many of its features, and so pertinaciously does the South insist upon maintaining it pre-cisely as it is, threatening to dissolve the Union if even an attempt is made to amend or repeal it, that hundreds of quiet, peace-loving citizens are seriously beginning to contemplate a peaceable separation of the States, as preferable to this con-tinual strife. The South must not be surprised tinual strife. The South must not be surprise if they are taken at their word some day. One thing is certain—if the North should seriously contemplate a dissolution of the Union, they will not talk long about it, but it will be done.

The opinion of Daniel Webster, that "the Constitution addresses itself to the States themselves on this subject, and not to the Federal Gevern ment, is fast becoming the opinion of the mass of the people, and, when this opinion becomes fully ripe for action, will sweep this law from the stat-ute book without a moment's hesitation. If the South has any real regard for their own interests, they will hasten to repeal it as speedily as possi-ble. That it will be repealed with or without That it will be repealed, with or without of eating their own threats of disunion, which they will most certainly be compelled to do, if they

For the National Era. BUILTIANS BUTWARN, CAUGANNANAS Proper Mode of Establishing Justice among the

No. VIL.-Obstacles to a Federal Union of Natio further considered-Indications of a Final Tri

generally holds true, that war is not the People's corrupt demagogues, or designing men. Thus "for lack of knowledge, often is a nation de

If, then, mutual ignorance and misunderstan ing be the prime obstacle in cementing the na tions of civilized men into an indissoluble broth erhood, (a conclusion warranted by the reasonin of our last article.) no formidable difficulty nee be apprehended from the existence of a variety distinct races. And whilst a diversity of creeds and religions undoubtedly forms a bar to a full interchange of national sympathy, we see no reason why it should be made a ground for justifying the present independent, distrustful, bel-ligerent attitude of those nations between which such diversity exists; for all stand upon the platsuch diversity exists; for all stand upon the platform of a common humanity, where they can
unite in maintaining certain great and common
interests. Abstractly, it is at least highly probable that all civilized Governments, how diverse
sover their religious creeds, might be induced to
adopt a few principles of general utility, and to
carry forward in concert a plan which proposes,
by affording protection to each, to secure the
rights and welfare of all. Do not say that such
a movement presupposes the entire abandonment a movement presupposes the entire abandonment of selfishness on the part of nations; a result which, however desirable, could be accomplished which, however desirable, could be accomplished by nothing short of a supernatural agency. International Unity upon the basis of sovereign Law, would be no more miraculous than Civil Government; both are established by the same method, and perpetuated by the same means; nor is the former less feasible than the latter. What is Civil Government but a triumph of enlightened reason, over the blind animal prospensities of the race? Doubtless, some ten hundred years ago, that triumph seemed impossible to the independent and warlike Barons, whom Alfred the Great was persuading to adopt what are now the common principles of social intercourse, to which we, and our ancestors during many generations, have been accustomed to attach all the sacredness and majesty of law. If Feudal lords could unite under a Constitution, and become peaceable unite under a Constitution, and become peaceable solved; independent States may confederate upon the basis of international law, even though the retain, in a measure, their distinctive pe

retain in a measure, their distinctive peculiarities and national predilections.

War, so far as it obtains, is a dissolution of the compact ordained by God and cemented by universal reason, and a resolution of society into its original discordant elements. Only let reason achieve one more triumph, let civilization but advance one step further, and war becomes as un-necessary and abhorrent to the public mind, as are civil dissensions and domestic rebellions in our own Confederacy.

Besides, who is so dull as to have overlooked

the obvious, though gradual, tendencies to unity among the nations? Under the influences of among the nations? Under the influences of this Ninteenth Century, stern barriers of nationality, that have for ages separated mankind into hostile sections, are slowly or umbling away. Light has diffused itself abroad, and the hearts of men are beginning to flow together. Within a few years past, grand demonstrations have been made in this country, in England, in Belgium, and in France, with the view of removing the prejudices which alienate Christian Governments, and of establishing fraternal bonds between them. At Brussels in 1848, at Paris in 1849, and at Frankfort in 1850, Congresses were assembled, composed Brussels in 1848, at Paris in 1849, and at Frankfort in 1850, Congresses were assembled, composed of philanthropists from various countries, belonging to distinct races, speaking a variety of languages, holding different political and religious opinions, and united only by their common zeal for humanity and a higher civilization, whose deliberations have most powerfully impressed the public mind in both hemispheres with sentiments orable to the general disarmament of States, d to the introduction of the reign of international justice. Commerce is establishing itself on a broader basis—the principles of Free Trade are gaining ground—mercantile union has already acquired so great a degree of strength, that it may safely be calculated upon as an efficient cause in preventing wars.

preventing wars.

Old Mammon, the god of gold, with his hundred hands, is coasslessly sending across the boundaries of States invisible cords of influence. He proposes to weave a web large enough to envelope both Hemispheres, whose golden meshes neither the brine of old Ocean can ever corrods, nor the swords of future generations out assuader.

gradually expire. "How could two nations go to war with each other," says the world-renowned Burritt, "after having been strapped together by the railway bars? The Iron Horse will tread the old passport system of Europe into the ground, and many will run to and fro over the continent, without asking the police."

The pecuniary burden borne by Christian na-

tions in sustaining their gigantic and overgrown military establishments, is now more than ever felt to be grievous and unnecessary. Martia: "Glory," once deemed the true grandeur of the citizen and State, now viewed in the glowing light capes. There are a thousand ways in which this can be done, without being liable to the penalties of the law, and it is done in numerous instances. There is no use in getting angry over this state of affairs, because it will not help the matter. The only way to remedy it is to reform public opinion at the North, which can only be done by sending able lecturers to convince the people of the inestimable blessings of slavery. hundred and twenty millions is levied upon the peo-ple, to meet the current expenses of the British Government. Of this enormous sum, he learns that twenty millions merely are deemed sufficient to support the civil administration, the remaining two hundred millions being absorbed by the debts incur ted during former wors, and by the expenses incident to preparation for future ones. Thus he perceives, that of every dollar wrung from his hands in the plain truth. Hundreds leave their homes under the firm belief that they will find the great mass of Northern Whigs and Deposite of the second to takes, ninety cents are appropriated to maintain the military prowess of his country in an age when there is no just occasion for its exercise; whereas ten country in the second to take and the secon form of taxes, ninety cents are appropriated to ercise; whereas, ten cents is the pittance asked of him to uphold a Throne as splendid, a Church as magnificent, and a Judiciary as efficient and costly, as any in the world!

Facts equally startling stare every enlightened American in the face. Arithmetic has demon-strated that, since the foundation of this Repubc, our war system has cost us in direct outlay no, our war system has cost us in direct outlay more than two thousand millions of dollars! a sum seem times greater than all the Government has expended for other purposes. It is also clearly established, that the annual outlay of the Fraternity of Christain States for the maintenance of their present | blend formations. "incongruous system of Armed Peace." equals at least a mousand million of dollars. An amount so huge can be better comprehended when we see the unconscionable ratio it bears to the cost of other great public interests "It is larger than the entire profit of all the commerce and manufactures of the world. It is larger than all the expenditure for agricultural labor, for the production of food for man, upon the whole face of the globe. It is larger, by a hundred millions, than the amount of all the exports of all the nations of the earth. It is larger, by more than five hundred millions, than the value of all the shipping of the civilized world. It is larger, by nine hundred and ninety-seven millions, than the annual com-

and ninety-seven millions, than the annual com-bined charities of Europe and America for preach-ing the Gospel to the Heathen."*

In view of facts like these, is it wonderful that THE PEOPLE throughout Christendom are beginning to realize the folly and danger of protection at such cost? When the spirit of free inquiry is sweeping like desolating fire through the antiquated civil and ecclesiastical superstructures of our time, is it to be expected that this monument of barbarian grandeur will alone escape un-scathed? Is it strange that the over-taxed, war-bereaved People are learning to question the shal-low dogmas of statesmen personally interested in the continuance of existing military establishments? No; the world is already more than half convinced that this whole Fighting Institution is founded in a venerable LIE. It is hard to believe their consent, is just as certain as that the odious that the instrumentalities which render war effi-Twenty-first Rule was repealed. By a timely receint are sanctioned by a just God, or entailed cient are sanctioned by a just God, or entailed and the peaceful retreats of innocence ; treacherous ambuscades; embargoes on commerce; the storm-ing and sacking of cities; the sequestration and destruction of property, the blockading of ports, to the country will be be seen in no war impli-crivate with ocean, and mimic the thunder and havoc of storms; piracies upon the high seas, legalized under the constitutional name of "Letters of Marque and Reprisal"—that these agencies, and and legalized by the rules of war, are harmonious with the spirit of Christianity, and proper to be used for the determination of internation

respecting justice.
The times are indeed teeming with happy omens, and, in spite of the perpetual stratageme, and subterfuges, and policies, wherewith error is seeking to evade an open encounter, there are many indications to cheer the hearts of Truth's onest champions. "The midnight blackness is ready baptized with the early light of a new era.
"Thou, Eternal Providence, wilt make the day dawn!

SUBLIME SIGHTS.

To the Editor of the National Era : Dear Sir: Don't you think it about time for some enterprising individual to issue a new work upon the "Sublime and Beautiful?" Our glorious country, and "the rest of mankind," have been recently edified and delighted by some im-posing displays of sublimity, a few of which

The recent passage of the Fugitive Slave Is has afforded an opportunity to many of our min-isters and other clergy, for a display of their zeal in the cause of cotton and patriotism. They laud the Constitution as the higher law, extol the pro-jectors of the Fugitive Slave law, sing songs of praise to the statesmen who passed it, and de-nounce with holy unction all who doubt the effieacy of this measure of peace. How sublime! How desperate must be the wickedness of the men who fail to appreciate the force of their reasoning, and cannot succeed in stiffing their con

victions of Right, Justice, and Humanity!

Again: The recent rescue of the alleged slave,
Shadrach, has afforded a golden opportunity to
our President, and that lesser light, Daniel Webster, for a display of their alacrity in the business. ster, for a display of their alacrity in the business of slave-catching. The few negroes in Boston are thereupon threatened by proclamation with the military and naval forces of the United States, and the contempt of all "good citizens," and the Administration gains great applause for its zeal and discretion. This act of our official dignituries is about what might have been ex-pected of them, and cannot be too highly com-mended.

The Legislature of a neighboring State recent The Legislature of a neighboring State recently adjourned for several days, for the purpose of enabling its members to take a free ride on the railroad to Baltimore, at the pay of \$3 per day per member. This new wrinkle in the business of legislation is of a piece with some of the other doings of that profound body, and you must not be astonished to see the fashion generally followed. I would recommend to the next Congress to vote its members a free ride to Niagara, or the Mammoth Cave—after which, the Legislatures of the several States may consider themselves justithe several States may consider themselves justi-

the several states may consider themselves justi-fied in trooping over the country from Maine to Georgia, wherever they can get a free ride. Mem—It would not be polite to hint that this free ride to the Legislature in question was pro-jected by certain long heads, for the purpose of obtaining favorable legislation to the route over which they travelled; and doubtless the bird which they travelled; and doubtless the would be erroneous, as we all know that Labor needs no legislation in its favor, and Capital is proverbially unable to take care of its own inter-

I always regard it a sublime sight to see Mr Clay rise in his place in the Senate, for the pur-pose of enlightening that body. His manner re-minds me of the self-confident speech of a Dutch member in another legislative body. He began thus: "Mr. Speaker—you hold still a little, while I makes a few bowerful obsarves, and den I dinks

AGRICULTURAL GROLOGY .- No. 13.

BY JOSIAH HOLEROOK

Quincy granite is no granite; it is sienite. So are most of the Egyptian granites. This rock took its name from Syena, the name of a town in Egypt, where it abounds. Geologically, granite and sienite differ but slightly. In the relations of the two rocks to agriculture and architecture, they differ essentially. Quartz and felspar are essential ingredients both of granite and sienite. Of the former, mica is the third ingredient; of the latter, hornblend. Granite is composed of quartz,

tility.
Mica is exceedingly fragile in its character,

readily changed into plates and fine scales to an unlimited degree of thinness; while hornblend is tough, and not easily changed by mechanical action. It hence gives much greater strength and durability to sienite, of which it is an ingredient, than is possessed by granite, of which mica forms a part. For pavements or any other use exposing the rock to friction or pressure, sienite and other hornblend rocks have a decided preference to any granite formations, of which granite, gneiss, and mica slate, are the principal.

Hornblend enters into rocks in almost every proportion, from constituting nearly their whole mass to a slight sprinkling, appearing in black specks on the surface, as may be witnessed in the "Merchants' Exchange," Astor House, and many other buildings in New York, and in the Bunker Hill Monument, and very many of the most valuable buildings in and about Boston. The same material is more or less used for buildings in nearly all the principal Atlantic cities, from Bos-ton to Charleston; also in New Orleans.

Hornblend so nearly resembles black mica, as equently witnessed in rocks, as not to be readily distinguished by the eye. The point of a knife, however, will at once determine whether the black specks are hornblend or mics, as the latter will eave off in fine scales, but not the former-determining whether the rock is granite or sienite, and of course whether it is or is not fitted for a certain desired use. Hornblend rocks are perhaps more widely scattered over the country in the form of boulders than almost any other geological formation.

EXPERIMENT.-Any farmer, while passing over his fields, and especially farmers' sons and daugh-ters, whether in their fathers' fields or on their way to school, by observing and collecting speci-mens of rocks meeting their eye, may readily de-termine whether they belong to granite or horn-

> For the National Era. REPLY TO SECESSION .- No. 4.

I think that Brother F. is at fault in his definition of the "one true visible Church of Christ." According to his definition, it is made up of communities, and not of individuals; and that consequently men hold their connection with the visible body of Christ, by virtue of their connection with the "true visible particular churches" with which they may be connected. All, therefore, who have a place in a "true particular visible Church," whatever their character may be, are to be considered members of Christ's visible body; or, in other words, are to be esteemed Christians. And all who are not connected with "true particular visible Church," no matter what may be their character, are not members of

what may be their character, are not memoers of Christ's visible body.

Let us for a moment look at the practical bearing of this definition. Generally, and I suppose in the estimation of Brother Fallerton, the Society of Friends do not constitute a "true particular visible Church." Yet many of the members hold that the reasonized to be the fundamental documents. the world," yet they have no connection with visible body of Christ. But the Old School Presbyterian Church is, in his estimation, a "true particular visible Church," and, consequently, with it are in the visible body of those connected with it are in the visible Christ. In that Church you may find the whis-a member of the visible body of Christ, by virtue of his connection with a community that is recog-nised as a "true particular visible Church." A definition which leads to conclusions so glaringly absurd, cannot be true.

The visible Church of Christ is not a body

made up of communities, but of individuals. Ac-cording to the definition which the Brother re-ceives, "the visible Church is a society made up of all such as, in all ages and places of the world, do profess the true religion." It is not a society of all such as, in all ages and places of the world, do profess the true religion." It is not a society made up of all such Churches as do profess the true religion, but of all such persons as do profess the true religion. In the form of government, chap. 2, sec. 2, we have this definition of the Church, which shows that the Church does not consist in an embodiment of communities, but of individuals; and that their connection does not depend upon their being members of a particular visible Church, but upon their professing the true religion. The universal Church consists of all those persons in every nation, together with their children, who make profession of the holy religion of Christ, and make profession of the holy religion of Christ, and of submission to his laws." We understand by of submission to his laws." We understand by profession, the manifestation, by word and deed, of true Christianity. To be really a Christian, is to be born again of the Spirit. To be professedly a Christian, is to give the evidence which the Scripture requires, that we are born again by the Spirit of God. By the one we have a place in the invisible body of Christ; by the other, a place in the visible body, which is his Church.

Every one, therefore, who gives the scriptural evidence that he is a child of God, is entitled to

all the privileges of God's house, and has claims upon us to be treated as a child of God; and no other person has any such claims.

If, then, the man who gives the scriptural evi-

dence that he is a child of God belongs to the visible body of Christ, and is therefore a mem-ber of the true visible Church of Christ, the following conclusion of Brother Fullerton does not hold true, viz: "The few little churches which hold true, viz. "The few little churches which reject slaveholders constitute the whole visible Church of God!" No such conclusions logically follow from the positions occupied by those who advocate the propriety of secession from hopelessly corrupt churches. We trust that very many who have professed their love of Christ in those bodies which, as a whole, have ceased to be for Christ, are his own dear children; many of them, by a holy life and sound faith, give visible we recognise them as such. The "true visible Church of Christ" is therefore not so small as the Brother supposes our position would make it. The Presbytery of which Brother Fullerton is a member, and the session over which he preside as moderator, and, if I mistake not, with his con currence, will not extend the privileges justly bewho belong to a "true particular visible ch." They will not permit a man who is a slaveholder, though he belongs to the Old School Church, to commune with them. If he is a member of the "true visible Church," by what rule of right do they exclude him from the privileges pertaining to membership? If the Brother's defi-nition is right, then let him bring the man-stealer nition is right, then let him bring the man-stealer to his communion table at Salem. According to his own reasoning, he, being a member of a particular visible Church, is a member of the visible Church of Christ; then do be consistent, and invite to the communion table the next soul-drawing, Old School Presbyterian that may chance to be present at one of your solemn feasts.

The Brother seems to be somewhat startled at the conclusions to which he comes, from the following declaration made by myself on a former occasion:

"The advocates of secession declare that the bodies from which they have seceded are not such bodies as was the Apostolic Church; but they have so far departed from the doctrines and practice of that Church as to be opposed to

claim that the Old School Presbyterian Church is as pure as the Apostolic Church, or is such a Church as the Apostolic Church was. The only Church as the Apostolic Church was. The only point of controversy is, have they so far departed from the doctrine and practice of that Church as to be opposed to Christ? In order to settle this matter intelligently, let us inquire, what was the doctrine of the Apostolic Church on this question of human rights? "All things whatsoever you would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." We all know that this command strikes slavery down at a stroke. I had

Mica and hornblend differ so essentially in this: "Pure religion, and undefiled, before God their chemical combinations and mechanical struc-ture as greatly to modify the rocks of which they widows in their affliction, and to keep himself untheir chemical combinations and mechanical struc-ture as greatly to modify the rocks of which they form a part, both in their relations to soils and buildings into which they enter. Both contain silica, alumina, and oxide of iron; but hornblend contains twice the amount of iron of the mica, and a considerable portion of lime. Hence, when becoming a part of soils, it produces greater ferthe religion of the slaveholder, and such is the religion of the Old School and New School Presbyterian Churches. While we are writing these articles, in all probability, some poor, broken-hearted mother is bidding a final farewell to her children—some wife is straining for the last time to her bosom the husband she loves; and this through the cold-hearted crucity of some minister or member of the Presbyterian Church. And when the Church is asked to say that the parent of these abominations is sinful, after long years of discussion, it proclaims that "slavery, under the circumstances in which it is found in the Southern portion of our country, is no bar to Christian

In former times, the Church tolerated this sinful practice in her communion, but she could not justify it. She preclaimed it to be a "violation of the most precious rights of human nature, utterly inconsistent with the law of God, and totally irreconcilable with the spirit and principles of the Gospel of Christ." It was hoped that, under the increasing light of civil and religious institutions then established, it would soon be hanished from the Church and from the nation. It was a time of comparative darkness.

But the case is different now. There is no hope that slavery will soon expire in the State, and no intention for it soon to expire in the Church. In the midst of a blaze of light on this subject, when slaveholders are asserting that slavery is a divine institution, and are straining every nerve to ex tend it, and perpetuate it to an indefinite period the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church deliberately declares that "debestic slavery, under the circumstances in which it is found in the Southern portion of our country, is no bar to Christian communion." A man may be an offender, and yet not be shut out from Chrisan offender, and yet not be shut out from Christian communion, until wher patient effort to reclaim him, he still perseveres in wrong-doing. In such a case, we suspend him—we cut him off from Christian communion. So we would judge concernion of the communion of the concernion of the concernion of the conference of th settled purpose to continue in the course of wrong-doing. And it should be a sin of great magnitude, and one that may be seen in the light of truth Such a sin is American slavery, and such an of-fender the Presbyterian Church, Old School. It takes the ground that slavery is no sin, and to say that slaveholding was not tolerated in the Apostolic Church is to charge the Apostles with

winking at iniquity. TO BE CONTINUED.

From the London Chronicle February 20. GREAT BRITAIN AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

Everybody knows that the moment a British Everybody knows that the moment a British ship touches at a port in South Carolina, those of her crew whose complexion falls below a recognised standard of olive, are immediately taken into custody by the police, and lodged in prison till the vessel clears outwards. Some extraordinary examples of this peculiar practice appear to have co. a recently under the notice of our Consul at Caroleston, and he has been instructed by the Foreign. visible Church." Yet many of the members hold what are recognised to be the fundamental doctrines of Christianity. They have a pure practice—are among the brightest ornaments of Christian life. According to his definition, they are cut of the visible body of Christ. They may believe in Christ, love God, acknowledge him before the world, maintain a holy walk in life; they may may "visit the widow and fatherless in their afflictions, and keep themselves unspotted from the world," yet they have no connection with the the world," yet they have no connection with the prudence between the State of South Carolin

It may be remembered that representations on the same head were some time since addressed to President Taylor's Administration, by the Eng-lish plenipotentiary at Washington. A not very tarket a diest kumssion that the previous of the carcerating British subjects, on account of discol-oration of the scarf skin, was not one of the rights ceded to the Federal Government by South Caro lina, in the constitutional pact. The application of Mr. Consul Mathew to Governor Means is the direct logical consequence of Secretary Clay-ton's letter: but, in the sciences of diplomacy and of constitutional interpretation, two and two do not always make four, nor is the conclusion at all times a necessary result of the premises. The Federal authorities, recoiling from the anomalies which the independent action of a single State would entail, and not a little irritated, per-Means in repeating the words "our Government," your Government," and "the two Govern ments"-have abandoned, under President Fillmore the position which they took up under President Tay lor, and Sir Henry Bulmer is engaged in a "long and active correspondence," explanatory of Consul Mathew's diplomatic irregularity in resorting to

the subordinate instead of the superior.
It can never be contended that no wrong has been suffered. The gratuitous imprisonment of a whole class of British subjects, tested by every a whole class of British subjects, tested by every criterion of international law, and still more by that large and liberal version of it which was sanctioned by the House of Commons in the Greek debate, amounts to a diplomatic grievance of the first magnitude. The most considerate and long-suffering of foreign ministers would never endure that, under a general permission to trade with a Roman Catholic country, Protestant sailors should be locked up as soon as they landed, and Romanists only allowed to go at large. The King of Naples is as anxious to keep free Englishmen out Naples is as anxious to keep free Englishmen out of his dominions, as South Carolina can be to exclude free negroes from her boundaries. But he does not declare that his subjects associate the pres-ence of Englishmen with revolutionary princi-ples—that the characteristic marks of an Englishman are red hair and red whiskers—and that he
is therefore under the painful necessity of imprisoning all red headed foreigners who may visit
his realms.

The "bloated-Bourbon" confines himself to the

expedient—at all events, an impartial one—of an interminable quarantine, which is calculated to slay the most fervent of propagandists with weariness and onsui. In the case of America, the indignity offered to us by the South Carolinian practice, is the more inexcusable, because the relations of the two countries are not governed by the common law of nations, or by a single treaty, but by a succession of treaties, and by habitudes of commercial intercourse which possess a sanction almost beyond that of international appropriate. Not seen it has not present to the control of the co dignity offered to us by the South Carolinian a sanction almost beyond that of international engagements. Nor can it be urged against us that we have not appealed to the proper tribunal. We had recourse to the Federal Government, and we were informed that no jurisdiction over the matter resided in Washington. We now betake ourselves to the Government of Carolina—a sovereign State, in every incident of sovereign ty—which has not been transferred to Washington. ton; and the central authorities immediately interfer with a protest, urging upon us—reasonably, it may be, but most illogically—the perplexities which must ensue if we attempt to treat with an isolated member of the

but most illogically—the perplexities which must ensue if we attempt to treat with an isolated member of the Federation on the same footing as with Mexico or Chili. We are thus called upon to give our assent to the doctrine that, by complicated internal arrangements, a country may contrive to annul its external responsibility.

The truth is, it is quite idle to argue, as a difficulty of public or domestic law, a matter which every soul in the Union admits to be embarrassed solely by circumstances and accident. Nobody has a shadow of a doubt that, in relinquishing the management of her external relations to the President and Congress of the United States, South Carolina disqualified herself for the enactment of laws which, by their operations, if not by their language, affect the forsign policy of the Union. The Constitution provides a very simple mode of superseding local jurisprudence where it encroaches on the privileges reserved to the collective federation. But the difficulty commences at the next stage. The firry citizens of South Carolina would be sure to disregard the disallowance of their acts by the Washington authorities, and any attempt to coerce them would be made at the cost of civil war, and at Imminent risk to the cohesion of the federal system.

In addition, it may be observed that there is

tion of human rights? "All things whatsoever you would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." We all know that this command strikes slavery down at a stroke. I had rather a man would do anything else to me than make a slave of me. I had rather he would take my life than to reduce me and my offspring to slavery; and so would Brother Fullerton. If we lavery; and so would Brother Fullerton. If we have been to let the British negotiations with South Carolina take their course. The tone of Governor Means, in the correspondence with true religion? Let the Apostle James answer